मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय के शिक्षा विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुद्दी राम सैकिया): (क) और (ख) जी, हां। रीवा में 1.8.96 से 23.11.96 के बीच आयोजित एस.जी.एफ.आई. (19 वर्ष की आयु से कम) फुटबाल प्रतियोगिता में केन्द्रीय विद्यालय संगठन की 16 सदस्यीय टीम ने भाग लिया।

(ग) केन्द्रीय विद्यालय संगठन की टीम ने क्वार्टर फाइनल तक खेला।

(घ) और (ङ) मैच के दौरान दोनों टीमों के बीच वाद-विवाद और कलह की घटना घटी।

**Rise in the Price Index for Foodgrains**

2330. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that during the period 1990 to 1995 the wholesale price index for foodgrains had gone up by 51.4 per cent, cereals by 53 per cent, pulses by 66.7 per cent, vegetables by 62.4 per cent, sugar and gur by 71.4 per cent; and

(b) if so, whether it is not indicative of the fact that the agricultural workers in the country are living below the poverty line who, according to the 1991 census, spend 85 per cent of their daily income on food articles?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) The increase in the average annual wholesale price index during 1995 over 1990 has been 82.0 per cent in foodgrains, 82.6 per cent in cereals, 79.2 per cent in pulses, 70.6 per cent in vegetables and 62.3 per cent in the case of sugar, khandsari and gur.

(b) The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty at national and state level separately in rural and urban areas using the quinquennial sample survey data on consumer expenditure. The estimates of poverty are not available separately for different occupation classes. However, the incidence of rural poverty for the year 1987-88 had been estimated at 28.37 per cent which is lower than the percentage of agricultural workers. As per the 43rd round of National Sample Survey (1987-88), the Agriculture Labour Households spent 67.10 per cent of total consumption expenditure on food items.

**Supply of Sprinklers and Pheromone Traps to farmers of Gujarat**

2331. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incentives are being provided for sprinklers and pheromone traps under Intensive Cotton Development Programme and Oilseeds Production Programme by Government in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of farmers benefited under these programmes during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise;

(d) whether any change has been noticed in the production of cotton and oilseeds in the State after the introduction of these programmes;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the other measures being taken by Government to improve the production of cotton and oilseeds in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Incentives are being provided for sprinklers and pheromone traps both under Intensive Cotton Development Programme and Oilseeds Production Programme. Under Oilseeds Production Programme incentive is given for sprinkler at the rate of Rs. 25,000 per ha. or 90% of the cost whichever is less for small, marginal, scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and women farmers and Rs. 25,000 per ha. or 70% of the cost, whichever is less for other farmers. In case of Cotton Scheme, the assistance is provided for sprinkler at the rate of 90% of the cost or Rs. 25,000 per ha., whichever is less for small farmers & 90% of the cost or Rs. 10,000 per 0.4 ha. whichever is less for marginal farmers.

Regarding Pheromone traps, an assistance is provided at the rate of Rs. 500/- per demonstration of 2 hac. each under both these schemes.

(c) The number of farmers benefited under these programmes in various Districts during last three years is given in the enclosed Statement. (*See* below).

**Statement**

*Statement showing the number of beneficiaries under intensive cotton development programme and oil seeds production programme in the state of Gujarat*

| Sr. No. | District | Sprinkler Sets | | | Pheromone traps | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
| 1. | Ahmedabad | 2 | 4 | 147 | 40 | 240 | 113 |
| 2. | Banaskantha | 33 | 30 | 58 | 350 | 1571 | 102 |
| 3. | Vadodara | 35 | 70 | 189 | 80 | 373 | 72 |
| 4. | Bharuch | 50 | 1 | 53 | 60 | 67 | 74 |
| 5. | Gandhinagar | — | — | 26 | 150 | 104 | 105 |
| 6. | Kheda | 15 | 8 | 108 | 425 | 1800 | 328 |
| 7. | Mehsana | — | 7 | 58 | 60 | 851 | 276 |
| 8. | Panchmahal | — | 6 | 50 | 10 | 400 | 50 |
| 9. | Sabarkantha | — | 8 | 94 | 190 | 247 | 200 |
| 10. | Surat | 27 | 13 | 2 | 137 | — | — |
| 11. | Amreli | 258 | 371 | 796 | — | 372 | 411 |
| 12. | Bhavnagar | 364 | 401 | 67 | — | — | 724 |
| 13. | Jamnagar | 92 | 77 | 449 | — | — | 756 |
| 14. | Jungadh | 300 | 909 | 1195 | — | 111 | 824 |
| 15. | Kutch | 8 | 21 | 109 | — | 150 | 90 |
| 16. | Rajkot | 314 | 465 | 1186 | 60 | 428 | 555 |
| 17. | Surendranagar | 20 | 28 | 113 | 60 | 56 | 245 |
| 18. | Bulsar | 36 | 23 | 79 | — | — | — |

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The production of cotton and oilseeds has been showing an increasing trend over the years. The production has increased from 11.81 lakh bales to 22.02 lakh bales and 16.44 lakh tonnes to 21.63 lakh tonnes for cotton and oilseeds respectively in the year 1995-96 from the year 1991-92.

(f) Besides supply of sprinklers & pheromone traps, other measures taken under these schemes for improving production include field demonstrations, integrated pest management demonstrations, training of farmers, production & supply of seeds, use of sprayers/farm implements etc.

**Gauge conversion of Gadag-Hotgi Rail-line and construction of Railway Station at Solapur**

2332. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to connect Gadag with Hotgi, while converting it with Broad gauge line and link it with the main Broad gauge line Bombay-Solapur-Madras, Hotgi itself, instead of taking this converted Broad gauge line upto Solapur;

(b) if so, how far it will eliminate the need for conversion of the line and the expenditure to be incurred;

(c) whether this will also eliminate the need for maintaining a separate Railway Station for Southern Railway at Solapur, and also remove traffic congestions and hazards at Railway crossing in the heart of the city; and

(d) the final decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir.